

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SAN DIEGO GAINS \$1 MILLION TO TACKLE BROWNFIELD SITES**

*Properties with possible toxic contamination targeted for clean-up and redevelopment*

**SAN DIEGO** – California State Treasurer Philip Angelides presented a check for \$1 million to Mayor Dick Murphy today in San Diego, to help the City spur the clean-up and redevelopment of brownfield properties. The grant is part of a new initiative sponsored by Treasurer Angelides, called California Recycle Underutilized Sites (Cal ReUSE). The Treasurer serves as Chairman of the California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA), which administers the statewide, \$10 million program.

As many as 119,000 brownfield sites – parcels of land which are not in productive use due to real or perceived contamination – are believed to exist in urban and rural areas throughout the State. “We hope to turn around these underutilized economic assets, and help local communities create housing, jobs and commerce on what otherwise would be vacant eyesores blighting our neighborhoods,” Angelides said.

The Cal ReUSE program is part of the Treasurer’s “Double Bottom Line” investment strategy, which focuses on achieving successful investment results while simultaneously broadening economic opportunity in California communities. By tackling the challenge of brownfields, Cal ReUSE aims to help localities reduce environmental degradation, revitalize neighborhoods and support sustainable growth patterns.

Cal ReUSE provides funding to help communities strip away the barriers that have prevented redevelopment of many brownfield properties – such as the cost of performing assessment of the amount of contamination, and what steps are needed to clean it up. The program enables cities to issue forgivable loans to property owners and development entities to pay for site assessment and characterization, technical assistance, remedial action plans and site access.

The City of San Diego was chosen by CPCFA as one of three initial Cal ReUSE strategic partners, along with the Cities of Oakland and Emeryville, which received \$1 million and \$300,000 respectively.

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